

NATIONAL



His Majesty King Hussein and RSS Director General Albert Butros (in dark suit) watch an electronics service and training centre employee at work.

RSS electronics centre opens

AMMAN, May 22 (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein opened at noon yesterday the Electronic Service and Training Centre at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS). RSS Director General Albert Butros, in a speech on the occasion, reviewed the achievements of the RSS during the past five-year development plan. The RSS is now in a position of rendering technical services to the public and private sectors and carrying out scientific research which has helped in solving some development problems, and which will help in coping with the problems that will crop up in the future, Dr. Butros said. He also thanked the Japanese government for the aid it has given in the establishment of the centre and in supplying it with equipment and apparatus.

Japanese Ambassador in Amman Fumiya Okada, in a second speech, emphasised that the centre was the "fruit of cooperation between two friendly countries." He said agreement on opening the centre was reached during a visit by King Hussein to Japan in 1976. He also expressed the hope that this centre would help raise technological standards in Jordan and render various technological services to specialised institutions both in Jordan and in the surrounding area. After opening the centre, King Hussein toured its various sections and heard a briefing on the nature of its work. The centre, with \$1.5 million worth of Japanese equipment, and constructed with \$5 million in aid

from the Japanese government, comprises four fully-equipped operating sections, in addition to a training unit. The operating sections are concerned with standards and calibration; testing and quality control, and research and development on electronic equipment used or to be used in Jordan. It is expected to keep electronics in Jordan up to international standards, while emphasising the provision of services locally and through Jordanian technicians. The RSS has already signed contracts with such bodies as the Water Supply Corporation, the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Natural Resources Authority, to keep their electronic equipment in top condition at the centre. The opening ceremony was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan in his capacity as chairman of the RSS board of trustees; Prime Minister Mudar Badran; Chief of the Royal Court Ahmad Al Lawzi; Court Minister Amer Khammash; Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ed Ibn Zaid; the commander-in-chief of the armed forces Lt. Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker; the heads of Arab and foreign diplomatic missions in Amman, and high-ranking civilian and military officials.

Jordan, Iraq education aides back from Algiers conference

AMMAN, May 22 (Petra) — Minister of Education Sa'ad Al Tal returned to Amman from Algiers last night after participating in the first Arab education ministers' conference which concluded its meetings in Algiers on Tuesday after five days. Iraqi Higher Education Minister Jasim Al Khalaf arrived on the same plane en route to Baghdad, after representing his country at the same conference. Dr. Tal said that this was the first Arab conference which dealt with the affairs of higher education. He said the conference adopted several important recommendations, the most im-

portant being an invitation to Arab states to coordinate in education, and the establishment of an Arab university to handle scientific research matters and an Arab centre for Arabisation, translation and publications. Dr. Tal added that he met with Algerian officials, including the prime minister and some members of the Algerian National Liberation Front, and discussed with them ways to strengthen cooperation between the two countries. Mr. Khalaf told Petra that the ministers worked at the conference to assert a serious interest in higher education in the Arab homeland through establishing joint patterns of growth in this sector. "We also reached results helping us to resolve the problems from which higher education is suffering, which are almost identical in all Arab countries," he said.

Ties established with Mongolia

AMMAN, May 22 (Petra) — Jordan and the People's Republic of Mongolia have decided to establish diplomatic relations between them as of yesterday. A statement issued to this effect said that out of their desire to strengthen the ties of friendship between them, the two countries are establishing ties at the ambassadorial level.

Mr. Khalaf said the conference had approved a mode of cooperation among Arab states in higher education, and decided to give assistance to needy countries in this regard, such as Palestine, Mauritania and Yemen.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

AMMAN, May 22 (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein and Her Majesty Queen Noor attended an artistic show presented by the Soviet Kabardinka folklore troupe yesterday evening at the Palace of Culture at Al Hussein Youth City. The show included 10 folk dances derived from Soviet traditions. King Hussein granted the troupe the independence medal, second class, as a sign of honour and appreciation. The show was also attended by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Chief of the Royal Court Ahmad Al Lawzi, Court Minister Amer Khammash, the minister of culture and youth, several officials, the Soviet Ambassador in Jordan and a huge crowd. The troupe is visiting Jordan for the first time at the invitation of the Ministry of Culture and Youth in implementation of a cultural and technical cooperation agreement between Jordan and the Soviet Union.

BAGHDAD, May 22 (Petra) — The vice chairman of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council, Mr. Izzat Ibrahim, met in Baghdad yesterday with a visiting Jordan people's delegation. Mr. Ibrahim conveyed the greetings of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to His Majesty King Hussein and the Jordanian government and people. He also expressed Iraq's appreciation for Jordan's pan-Arab stand in support of the battle of honour and dignity which Iraq is waging on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland.

AMMAN, May 22 (J.T.) — The director of the cultural department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Abdul Hamid Omar, received at his office yesterday the charge d'affaires of the Greek embassy in Amman. During the meeting, they discussed cultural relations between Jordan and Greece, and the exchange of visits by cultural delegations of the two countries, with an emphasis on historical studies.

AMMAN, May 22 (J.T.) — Agriculture Minister Marwan Dudin has sent memos to ministries and departments concerned with the agricultural sector requesting that the ministry be supplied with a list of projects they will implement in the current five-year plan and the period that will follow, and the relationship of these projects with rural development in general and the King Talal Dam in particular. The aim of the measure is to coordinate between these projects and the projects which the Ministry of Agriculture is implementing in cooperation with the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development, particularly the project to build a network of agricultural roads in the King Talal Dam basin.

CAEU panel ends meeting

AMMAN, May 22 (Petra) — The committee of permanent representatives to the Council of Arab Economic Unity concluded a week of meetings at the council's general secretariat here yesterday. The committee has prepared its report, which will be submitted to the 37th session of the council scheduled to be held in Amman on June 1. The report deals with the organisational structure of the general secretariat and the functions of directorates, offices, departments and sections.

The delegation of the council's general secretariat to the meetings was headed by the council's secretary general, Dr. Fakhri Qadouri. Delegates from Jordan, Syria, Iraq, the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Libya and North Yemen participated.



Burmese Mining Minister Than Tin (far left) and Minister of Industry and Trade Walid Asfour (far right) discuss Mr. Than's mission with reporters.

Burmese minister sees Jordan's phosphate work with a view to purchase

AMMAN, May 22 (Petra) — Minister of Industry and Trade Walid Asfour yesterday received visiting Burmese Mining Minister Than Tin. They discussed the prospects of economic cooperation between the two countries, particularly in the exploitation of phosphates. The meeting was attended by the Director General of the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company, (JPMC), Mr. Ali Nsour. The Burmese minister and his delegation also visited the phosphate mines at Al Hasa in Tafila District, where they heard a detailed explanation of the productive capacity of the mines and the modern methods used in finding, mining and processing phosphate ores. They expressed their admiration for the high standard of work achieved by the JPMC. Mr. Than told reporters the aim of his visit was to

strengthen economic cooperation between the two countries, and that Burma wishes to purchase large quantities of Jordanian phosphates. A round of talks between the JPMC and a visiting Burmese delegation began at the headquarters yesterday. Mr. Nsour expressed the company's preparedness to supply Burma's needs of phosphates in the future. The head of the Burmese delegation expressed his country's desire to arrange in the future supply of phosphates to his country, keep in mind the coming completion of construction of phosphate plants in Burma. He estimated his country's needs of phosphates in 1982 at 100,000 tons, and in 1984 at 300,000 tons. The two sides agreed to continue discussing the subject in subsequent meetings.



A centre official explains his section's work.

Karak water team meets

KARAK, May 22 (Petra) — The drought committee in Karak Governorate held a meeting yesterday under Karak Governor Diyab Yousef, during which it discussed the distribution of potable water tanks to the various administrative areas of the governorate according to need.

The governorate director of the Water Supply Corporation said that the corporation will install a pumping machine at Al Harir project to double the pumping rate from 15 to 30 cubic metres an hour. It will also secure several pumping machines for other projects.

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9. Construction supplies	41
10. Plumbing supplies	43
11. Tools	45
12. Arabic & English library & reference books	45
13. Office machines, typewriters, calculators, etc.	70
14. Furniture, steel & wood & school desks	72
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Date: May 20, 1981

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WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibitions

The British Council presents sculpture from its permanent collection at the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts, open from 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.

The French Cultural Centre presents an exhibition of photographs by members of the centre's photography club.

The British Council presents "Recent Prints from Britain", in the foyer of Alcazar Hotel in Aqaba.

The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities presents the Spring Festival of Art at the Alia Art Gallery in Shmeisani.

Films

The French Cultural Centre presents "Nous ne

vieillirons pas ensemble", beginning at 7:30

The Goethe Institute presents the children's "Stephen and the White Birds", beginning at 8 p.m.

Church services

The Amman International Church meets every day at 6 p.m., at the Baptist School in Shmeisani. Church School for adults is at 5 p.m.; provided.

The Church of the Redeemer (C. of Anglican/Episcopal) celebrates Holy Communion on Sunday at 8 a.m., and holds Morning Service at 12 noon and Evening Service at 7 p.m. The church is located in the First Circle of Jabal Amman, near the Ahliyah School for girls (CMS), beyond the China Restaurant.

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MIDDLE EAST

Occupation leaves its marks

By Musa Budeiri

In this year the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip (WBGS) will reach its fifteenth year. The outward manifestations of change in the political sphere are well known, but less attention has been given to the more irreversible and longer lasting transformation which has taken place in the economic and social structure of the

region. It is little doubt that the occupation has proved a net gain for the Israeli economy which has saddled with any significant burdens. Indeed, the Israeli market (stone quarries, brickworks, textiles) has expanded in the expansion of the economy, particularly in the West Bank. The population of the WBGS is at 1.3 million. At the beginning of the occupation it is estimated some 200,000 Palestinians lived in the West Bank. It is further estimated that 20,000 people have been uprooted since the occupation began in 1967. The population of the West Bank in the latter 1970s was smaller than it had been in 1948.

There is little doubt that the occupation has proved a net gain for the Israeli economy which has saddled with any significant burdens. Indeed, the Israeli market (stone quarries, brickworks, textiles) has expanded in the expansion of the economy, particularly in the West Bank. The population of the WBGS is at 1.3 million. At the beginning of the occupation it is estimated some 200,000 Palestinians lived in the West Bank. It is further estimated that 20,000 people have been uprooted since the occupation began in 1967. The population of the West Bank in the latter 1970s was smaller than it had been in 1948.

are not permitted to work. Another 20,000 workers are employed in the WBGS in Israeli-related concerns, producing goods for the Israeli market (stone quarries, brickworks, textiles). Although initially workers from the WBGS were not allowed to work in Israel, the labour shortage which emerged in 1968 caused the authorities to change the rules so that Palestinian labourers could be employed within Israel's 1967 borders. The work available was and remains in the lowest echelons of the economy. An Israeli report in 1977 calculated that 44 per cent of workers from the WBGS were employed in unskilled jobs, 22 per cent were skilled workers, and the rest worked in agriculture and the service sectors.

Until now unemployment in the WBGS has been avoided through the migration of thousands to Jordan and the Gulf states. Recently, however, Israeli officials have been making forecasts that up to 50,000 Palestinian workers will have to lose their jobs as a result of the recession. Figures for the beginning of 1980 already show a decrease in the number of Palestinian workers in virtually every sector of the Israeli economy. (see box)

The organisational weakness of Palestinian workers and their lack of any political muscle within Israel has helped the Israeli private sector to adjust to changing market conditions. They came to provide in the words of one Israeli



The organisational weakness of Palestinian workers and their lack of any political muscle within Israel has helped the Israeli private sector to adjust to changing market conditions.

Employment figures for workers from the West Bank and Gaza Strip in Israel

	December 1979	January 1980	% Decrease
Construction	14,998	13,345	11.02
Industry	20,161	17,165	14.86
Agriculture	9,744	7,831	19.63
Services	9,392	7,600	19.08
Total	54,295	45,941	15.39

Source: Al-Talia, 14 Feb. 1980 (These figures do not include those working illegally in Israel).

academic "a free labour force in the classical economic sense". The outcome of this labour shift has been the move of semi-employed peasants and unemployed workers from the WBGS into the Israeli economy at the lower end of the scale as members of the manual working class. This was simply induced since the wages offered were 50 per cent or

more higher than those paid for similar work in the WBGS economy, though still less than those paid to Israeli workers. As a result the Israeli labour force has been restructured. According to a Bank of Israel report, "unskilled jobs have come to be considered the preserve of workers from the administered areas". Thus the national division is inevitably being transformed into an economic one. Jewish workers are becoming a privileged group employed in industry, services connected with the state, the army and strategic production, and constitute a relatively protected group.

The Palestinian workers, who constitute the "free" part of the working class, which gives the economy its flexibility and its capacity to adjust to crisis, have become in the strictly economic sense "a reserve army of the economy" and of vital importance to the private sector.

This process has had a momentous effect on the predominantly rural structure of the WBGS. A process of marginal proletarianisation is currently

under way as Palestinian peasants are uprooted from traditional village life by the necessity of having to seek employment in Jewish urban centres. As a result the Arab village has been transformed into a stagnant pro-productive unit, and the peasants have become part of the market for hired labour.

The damage done to agriculture is already visible; the agricultural labour force has contracted by as much as 25 per cent, and there is an acute shortage of agricultural labour in the areas. If this trend continues, as is likely, the long term prospect would be for the WBGS to be reduced to the role of a dormitory for manual labour, and for an intensification of an emerging bias in the structures and skills of the Palestinian labour force.

Despite the noticeable increase in money incomes in the WBGS, which is primarily the result of the export of labour services to Israel, the investment needed for future economic growth has not been generated. Industry has remained primitive in character and there is

no discernible beginning to an industrialisation process. The inhabitants are increasingly dependent for their livelihood on the workings of the Israeli economy.

Yet the increased financial liquidity of the inhabitants of the WBGS compared to the period prior to 1967 has significant implications in so far as it creates and perpetuates new consumption patterns. The absence of a local productive base means, however, that the money which is rapidly flows back to the Israeli economy and does not contribute to the building of a new productive infrastructure within the WBGS. The rising wages and increased purchasing power are likely to prove a short term benefit, gradually eroded by inflation and currency devaluations.

The long term structural change to the economies of the WBGS, on the evidence existing so far, is likely to prove disadvantageous. The trading benefits resulting from the connection with Israel are mainly reaped by the latter, and the development of manufacturing and industry has been nil. Agriculture

is also hampered by the continuing shortage of manpower. The rapid proletarianisation which has taken place has been to the benefit of the Israeli economy.

Yet there has been a sharp rise in expectations, and large sections of the inhabitants have been accustomed to a modest level of a material gratification.

This, together with the continuing expropriation of land for the establishment of settlements and the control of the regions' scarce water resources, has brought in its wake an adverse transformation. The effects of this, cushioned for a long time by the booming Israeli economy, are likely to increase economic hardship within the WBGS now that Israel has entered a recession. In turn this could lead to an increased rate of immigration, and possibly provide a new impetus for more acute forms of struggle against the occupation. (Middle East International)

Musa Budeiri is a Palestinian writer living in London.

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Egypt declares war on Nile Delta invaders

By Jonathan Wright

ZAGAZIG, Egypt: Egypt has declared war on millions of brown rats attacking the fertile farmlands of the Nile Delta.

Warning that a plague of rats was approaching emergency proportions, agriculture officials began spreading tons of pesticide across the lush plain that is Egypt's breadbasket.

In the first three days of the campaign, they said 1.5 million rats were exterminated in just one province, kalyoubia. "But this is the tip of the iceberg," the ministry of agriculture's pest department reported.

One official put the number of rats in the Delta at 240 million. An American rodent expert, Mr. Richard Pochet, called the situation very serious.

Despite successive eradication campaigns, the rat population, which outnumbers people by more than 10 to one, was reaching new peaks each summer, Mr. Pochet said.

Although total agricultural production has not yet shown signs of decline, rats are devouring extra crops that reclaimed land and high-yield crop strains would normally be producing, Mr. Pochet said.

No statistics are available but farmers in the area around this rat-infested mud brick town in northern Egypt complain that rats are eating almost everything. The farmers grow wheat, maize, rice, cotton, broad-beans, sugar cane

and barseem (a clover that is the Egyptian peasant's main source of fodder).

A government report said rats have eaten and savaged their way through villages and farms, spreading terror amongst the local population. Terrifying tales have been reported in the Egyptian press in the past few weeks.

At Sharkieh a camel bleeding from the foot was attacked by rats

and barseem (a clover that is the Egyptian peasant's main source of fodder). A government report said rats have eaten and savaged their way through villages and farms, spreading terror amongst the local population. Terrifying tales have been reported in the Egyptian press in the past few weeks.

The predators have either lost their habitats to humans or been killed by insecticides. "The conditions for breeding are excellent, the Egyptian winter is too mild to

kill off the bulk of the rodent population, as it would do in Western Europe for example," Mr. Pochet said.

A mature female rat, producing litters of four to 10 at intervals of 30 days, can have scores of descendants within a year and the young reach sexual maturity six months after birth.

The rats began moving into Zagazig in 1979. Since then officials have launched two unsuccessful extermination campaigns.

First they sold zinc phosphide on credit. The poison is cheap and effective but the rats learned to avoid it. Farmers also worried that it would kill children and livestock.

Last July, when the rat population reached its annual peak,

At Shakrieh a camel bleeding from the foot was attacked by rats and eaten alive until nothing was left of it but a skeleton gnawed to the bone.

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In a village near Zagazig farmers reported that rats ate 500 chicks alive, nibbled two hectares (five acres) of wheat down to the last stalk, and attacked babies and aged and ill people.

Cattle and poultry have no chance of surviving an attack by hordes of rats.

Their invasion started just over one year ago after breeding for over eight years in Suez Canal towns and villages left deserted after the Egyptian-Israeli war in October, 1973.

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Mr. Pochet says more emphasis should be put on mechanical means of extermination, such as trapping and flooding burrows. "These can still be effective," he said.

In Zagazig, the farmers continue to put their faith in the oldest means of rat-catching - cats. Cats with a reputation as good rat-hunters have become prized pets here and are changing hands at 2.50 Egyptian pounds (\$3.50), an unheard-of price in Egypt. (R)

ECONOMY

French bank rate raised to 22%

Paris, May 22 (R) — France's socialist government raised interest rates by four per cent to a record 22 per cent today as part of a package of measures to defend the ailing franc.

The increase, which goes into effect on Monday, followed the announcement last night of restrictions on the freedom of French nationals to speculate in foreign currency, both in private deals and in trading.

The package had an immediate effect on Paris exchange markets where the French currency had been under heavy pressure since Socialist Francois Mitterrand won the presidential election on May 10 and ousted centre-right Valery Giscard d'Estaing.

Foreign exchange dealers, however, viewed the defence package as too little too late, and the franc remained on its floor in the European Monetary System (EMS).

The franc struggled off its official EMS floor against the West German mark in an initial psychological reaction to the overnight moves, only to fall back a few hours later.

The franc initially touched 5,490 to the dollar but closed at 5,585 here, up slightly from yesterday's 12-year low of 5,605 and fractionally better than yesterday's close of 5,5912. It has been pinned to its lower limit of 2,4093 to the mark since Socialist Francois Mitterrand's election as president. The measures were decided at a meeting last night called by Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy, appointed by Mr. Mitterrand shortly after his inauguration yesterday.

At the meeting were Treasury Director Jean-Yves Haberer and Renaud de la Geniere, governor of the Bank of France.

A statement issued after the meeting said the measures were necessary to protect the franc "from temporary upheavals which are in no way justified by the fundamental elements of our economy or by the economic and financial policies proposed by the new government."

Economic analysts say the pressure on the franc was largely due to fears of the effect of socialist pledges to nationalise 11 major companies and most private banks.

If the left wins next month's parliamentary election as the earliest opinion polls suggest, the pressure on the franc could become so intense that it will make a realignment of parties within the EMS a probability rather than a possibility, economists said.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

EEC grants Tunisia \$5.4m

TUNIS, May 22 (R) — The European Economic Community (EEC) has granted Tunisia 2.15 million Tunisian dinars (about \$5.4 million) to cover half the cost of building three professional training centres at Nabeul, Menzel Bourguiba and Zaghouan, it was announced yesterday in Tunis.

USSR supplies Cyprus with oil

NICOSIA, May 22 (R) — Cyprus has secured additional supplies of heavy oil for the island's electricity supply from the Soviet Union, Industry Minister Constantinos Kitis said yesterday.

Mr. Kitis told a press conference on his return from a week-long visit to Moscow that the Soviets have also agreed to increase their imports of Cypriot agricultural products and discuss development projects and joint ventures.

The existing five-year agreement between Cyprus and Moscow, signed in 1975, expires in December and a Soviet delegation will visit Cyprus in the autumn to discuss a new agreement he said.

The Soviets had agreed to supply an extra 50,000 tons of heavy oil, in addition to the 100,000 tons Moscow had already contracted to supply this year, for the island's power station, which requires 300,000 tons of heavy oil each year, Mr. Kitis said.

Turkey announces major price increases

ANKARA, May 22 (R) — The Turkish government today put into effect higher prices for petrol, cigarettes, and alcoholic drinks, the first major price increase for basic consumer goods since the military took power last September.

Petrol, diesel oil, kerosene and bottled cooking gas will cost between 13.2 and 16.7 per cent more. Cigarettes and staple-produced alcoholic drinks will cost between 30 and 70 per cent more.

New prices for sugar, whose sale has been banned until tomorrow, would be announced later, officials said.

Instant coffee losing charm

ZURICH, May 21 (R) — The market for instant coffee is gradually dissolving, as coffee drinkers demand higher quality or decaffeinated coffee, according to a leading coffee company.

Klaus Jacobs, president of Jacobs, one of Europe's leading coffee roasting and retailing firms, told the company's annual press conference that the market for high quality and so-called "health coffees" was growing twice as fast as the rest of the market.

"Instant coffee is clearly on the retreat in Europe, the U.S. and most other countries," Mr. Jacobs said.

Japan was almost the only country where demand for soluble coffee was still growing, he said.

Current concern over food and drink health hazards meant that the coffee companies should beware of underestimating the impact of research being conducted into possible cancer-causing properties of caffeine and other elements of coffee, he said.

A recent medical report which received wide publicity in the U.S. said there was a possible link between heavy coffee drinking and cancer.

BP asks Libya to cut oil prices

LONDON, May 22 (R) — British Petroleum (BP) has asked Libya to cut its oil prices, currently about \$41 a barrel, because of the high level of world stocks, a spokesman said today.

The spokesman said the company had not asked for a specific cut.

Gulf Oil recently confirmed that it had asked Nigeria to cut its prices from \$40 a barrel and that it could reduce purchases otherwise.

But the BP spokesman said BP's two current contracts for relatively small quantities of Libyan oil were not threatened.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON, May 22 (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at the close of trading on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets today

One sterling	2.0705/25	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.2001/04	Canadian dollar
	2.3130/40	West German marks
	2.5700/50	Dutch guilders
	2.0600/0700	Swiss francs
	5.5600/5800	French francs
	37.65/70	Belgian francs
	1148.00/1150.00	Italian lire
	222.00/30	Japanese yen
	4.9240/60	Swedish crowns
	5.7115/35	Norwegian crowns
	7.2550/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	472.00/472.50	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON, May 22 (R) — Share prices closed easier on balance after a quiet session ahead of the long spring bank holiday weekend. At 1500 the F.T. index was down 3.4 at 541.2.

Equities rallied slightly after easing initially on the Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance £76m rights issue news but interest waned and prices drifted, dealers said. Government bonds fell as much as 3/4 with fears of higher U.S. interest rates overhanging the market.

Gold shares weakened with the bullion price and North American stocks were quietly mixed. Guardian Royal closed 12p down at 290p having touched 288 after the right issue proposal. Other insurances showed net losses ranging to 6p but Sun Alliance ended 5p higher at 789 after a low of 776. Boots ended 11p off at 232 on further consideration of full year results announced yesterday.

ICI ended 2p easier after an irregular trend and similar falls were noted in BP, Bowater, Glaxo and Lucas. Hawker and Tube Investments were both 6p lower but GEC, Plessey and Thorn recovered part of the recent fall, the first named scoring a 10p rise at 660p.

JORDAN MARKETPLACE

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